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Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of:

Inventor: Robert Klaus

For: INTERACTIVE SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SELLING INSURANCE

Enclosed are:

Abstract of the Disclosure (1 page) and  
 53 Pages of Specification and Claims  
 11 Sheets of drawings (Informal)  
 Declaration and Power of Attorney (Unsigned)  
 The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

FOR	NO. FILED	NO. EXTRA	SMALL ENTITY		OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
			RATE	Fee	RATE	Fee
BASIC FEE	*****	*****	****	\$ 345	or ****	\$ 690
TOTAL CLAIMS	20	- 20 = 0	x 9=	\$ _____	or x18=	\$ 0
INDEP. CLAIMS	5	- 3 = 2	x39=	\$ _____	or x78=	\$ 156
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM PRESENTED	0		+130	\$ _____	or +260=	\$ 0
			TOTAL	\$ _____	or TOTAL	\$ 846

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 12-1660. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Our check No. 12560 is also enclosed to cover, among other items, the above filing fee.

Respectfully submitted,

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1 INTERACTIVE SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SELLING INSURANCE

2

3 Background of the Invention

4

5 The present invention relates to an interactive system  
6 and method for selling insurance including reinsurance.

7 Insurance is used to redistribute risks. Insurers or  
8 risk carriers assume portions of the risks of their  
9 customers or insureds in exchange for premiums. Insureds  
10 may also be referred to as cedents in that they cede risks  
11 to a risk carrier or insurer. Reinsurance is used by  
12 insurance companies to redistribute their exposure to other  
13 insurers. In a reinsurance agreement, an insurer (often  
14 referred to as a primary insurer or ceding company)  
15 transfers or cedes some or all of its exposures and premiums  
16 to a reinsurer. The reinsurer then agrees to indemnify the  
17 ceding company for a predetermined type and amount of losses  
18 sustained.

19 It is important to understand that insurers, including  
20 primary insurers and reinsurers, are regulated as to the  
21 amount of insurance they can write, or risk that they can  
22 assume, based on the amount of surplus funds they hold. The  
23 capacity of an insurer generally refers to the monetary

1 amount of insurance or risk of loss which the insurer can  
2 agree to cover based upon their surplus funds. An insurance  
3 company can increase its capacity to allow it to write more  
4 policies or to write policies with higher limits by  
5 reinsuring a portion of its covered risks.

6 There are two broad types of reinsurance contracts:  
7 treaty and facultative. Treaty reinsurance involves an  
8 agreement in which the primary insurer agrees in advance to  
9 cede certain classes of business or types of insurance to  
10 the reinsurer. For example, part of the primary insurer's  
11 business may be aviation insurance, through which the  
12 primary insurer provides aviation insurance to multiple  
13 commercial airliners. Under a treaty reinsurance contract,  
14 the reinsurer would agree to reinsurance some portion of the  
15 risk of all of the primary insurer's aviation insurance  
16 contracts. Individual risks are not underwritten or  
17 discussed; the reinsurer relies on the primary insurer to  
18 accept only risks that fall within acceptable underwriting  
19 criteria and reinsurance all risks that fall within the  
20 reinsurance treaty agreement. Facultative reinsurance, on  
21 the other hand, involves separate reinsurance agreements for  
22 each risk or policy that is being reinsured.

1           In addition to the broad types of reinsurance  
2 contracts, treaty or facultative, there are also various  
3 ways in which the parties may share or cede the risks. Two  
4 broad classifications of risk sharing arrangements are  
5 referred to as Proportional Arrangements or Excess  
6 Arrangements.

7           In a proportional agreement, a certain portion of every  
8 risk covered by the agreement is ceded. The primary insurer  
9 and reinsurer share a portion of all insurance, premiums and  
10 losses in the same amount. The primary insurer is paid a  
11 commission in exchange for ceding the risk portion and  
12 premium to the reinsurer. A proportional agreement may be  
13 written on a quota share or surplus share basis.

14           In a quota share agreement, the primary insurer's  
15 retention (retained risk) is stated as a percentage of the  
16 amount insured. The insurer retains the same percentage of  
17 insurance, premium and losses and cedes the rest to the  
18 reinsurer, subject to a reinsurance limit. In a surplus  
19 share treaty, the primary insurer's retention (retained  
20 risk) is stated as a fixed monetary amount of the amount  
21 insured. The primary insurer retains a fixed monetary  
22 amount of all insurance, premium and losses that fall within  
23 the agreement and cedes the rest to the reinsurer. In

1 either case, a commission is typically paid to the insurer  
2 in return for the premium ceded.

3 To illustrate the differences between quota share and  
4 surplus share, assume that a primary insurer wants to write  
5 a policy for a property risk valued at \$1,000,000. In a  
6 quota share arrangement with a 25% retention, the primary  
7 insurer would retain \$250,000 of the property risk and cede  
8 \$750,000 to the reinsurer. However, if the property risk  
9 were valued at \$2,000,000 under the same quota share  
10 arrangement, the insurer would retain \$500,000 and cede  
11 \$1,500,000. In a surplus share treaty, the primary insurer  
12 may choose to retain \$250,000 of each property risk insured.  
13 The primary insurer thus would retain \$250,000 on both a  
14 \$1,000,000 property risk, ceding \$750,000, and on a  
15 \$2,000,000 property risk, ceding \$1,750,000.

16 In an excess reinsurance agreement, only losses are  
17 ceded to the reinsurer. The primary insurer retains the  
18 amount of insurance and premium, and commissions are not  
19 normally paid. Three standard types of excess agreements  
20 are per risk excess, per occurrence excess, and aggregate  
21 (stop loss) excess.

22 In an aggregate excess agreement, the retention is  
23 calculated based on all losses over a period of time stated

1 in the agreement. The retention may be stated in a monetary  
2 amount, a loss ratio, or some combination of the two.

3 In per risk excess arrangements, losses above a certain  
4 monetary amount are ceded to the reinsurer, which is  
5 responsible for all losses from any one exposure above this  
6 monetary amount up to the reinsurance limit. Per occurrence  
7 or per loss excess arrangements are similar to per risk  
8 arrangements. However, the retention is stated as an amount  
9 incurred per occurrence. An occurrence may be one  
10 hurricane, one flood or one accident that results in  
11 liability claims.

12 The difference between per risk and per occurrence  
13 excess can be illustrated in the following example in which  
14 a hurricane damages 100 covered homes in a given area. If  
15 the primary insurer ceded the losses on a per risk basis  
16 with a \$10,000 retention, it would be responsible for the  
17 \$10,000 retention on each of the 100 homes, or \$1,000,000.  
18 However, on a per occurrence basis, the primary insurer may  
19 have retained \$250,000 per occurrence, in which case the  
20 primary insurer would have to pay \$250,000 and the reinsurer  
21 would be responsible for the rest of the losses up to the  
22 reinsurance limit.

1           Original Loss Warranty ("OLW") protection is a type of  
2 per occurrence excess agreement in which the reinsurer pays  
3 the reinsurance cover amount only if the total amount of a  
4 covered loss exceeds a set amount or trigger point. OLW  
5 protection is often utilized in high risk insurance such as  
6 aviation, space and energy/marine. In such high risk  
7 insurance, the risk is often spread among multiple carriers,  
8 each covering a portion of the total risk.

9           The following example is provided to illustrate  
10 possible application of OLW protection in a high risk  
11 insurance, namely aviation insurance.

12           A primary insurer of International Airline accounts  
13 seeks reinsurance for its portfolio of aviation insurance  
14 contracts. The primary insurer's portfolio includes a 10%  
15 line (i.e. it receives 10% of the premiums and must pay 10%  
16 of each claim) on aviation insurance for a first airline  
17 which runs for 12 months beginning on January 1, a 5% line  
18 on aviation insurance for a second airline, effective 12  
19 months beginning on April 1; and numerous other insurance  
20 policies with different various percentages of participation  
21 and policy periods. The primary insurer's exposure out of  
22 these various contracts is very high and the primary insurer  
23 seeks reinsurance to reduce its exposure.

1           OLW protection for such a portfolio might be structured  
2    such that the reinsurance contract provides for a cover  
3    amount of \$3,000,000 if any one of the insureds covered by  
4    an aviation insurance policy in the primary insurer's  
5    portfolio has a loss which exceeds a trigger point of  
6    \$750,000,000 during the period of the reinsurance contract  
7    in exchange for a premium of \$800,000. It does not matter  
8    which of the primary insurer's insureds suffers the loss,  
9    nor the primary insurer's participation in the insurance  
10   contract of the insured suffering the loss. If a loss  
11   occurs during the reinsurance policy period which exceeds  
12   the trigger point, the reinsurer pays the reinsurance cover  
13   amount.

14           Historically, reinsurance contracts have been initiated  
15    by the primary insurer, or by a broker on behalf of the  
16    primary insurer, which approaches a reinsurer and requests  
17    coverage of a certain amount of its portfolio. An  
18    underwriter for the reinsurer then evaluates performance  
19    data for the primary insurer and evaluates the risk  
20    associated with the requested reinsurance amount and decides  
21    how much coverage or capacity the reinsurer is willing and  
22    able to offer and under what financial and legal terms.  
23    This offer is then either accepted or declined by the

1 cedent. This process is typically effected by telephone,  
2 fax, letter and personal contact and may involve ongoing  
3 negotiations as to the financial and legal terms or the  
4 amount of capacity offered. These are essentially the same  
5 methods used for selling most types of insurance.

6 The historical method of marketing or selling  
7 insurance, including reinsurance, limits the ability of the  
8 insurer to be proactive in its effort to sell its insurance  
9 services and often results in inefficiencies in utilization  
10 of the insurer's capacity.

11

12 Summary of the Invention

13

14 The present invention comprises a system and method for  
15 ceding risks from insureds or cedents to a risk carrier or  
16 insurer over a computer network. The system and method are  
17 particularly well adapted for use in forming reinsurance  
18 contracts. The system includes an application server on  
19 which an application is installed. The "application"  
20 includes an application engine and supporting data and  
21 program files. The application interfaces with a database  
22 of selected information of selected cedents. The  
23 application server is remotely accessible by the cedents

1 through a computer network and in particular through the  
2 internet.

3 An initial step of the method involves calculating a  
4 risk assumption capacity of the risk carrier and entering  
5 the capacity into the application as available risk  
6 assumption capacity. Another preliminary step involves  
7 identifying potential customers or cedents having classes of  
8 insurance or risks, portions of which the risk carrier is  
9 willing to assume under selected terms. The risk carrier  
10 then develops proposals to assume selected risks of the  
11 potential cedents and posts the proposals on the system such  
12 that the proposals are viewable by the cedents through the  
13 computer network. The application permits the cedents to  
14 electronically submit a proposal directed to or associated  
15 with it, as an offer, for acceptance by the risk carrier.  
16 The application electronically accepts the offer and sends  
17 confirmation of acceptance of the offer to the cedent.

18 Upon acceptance of an offer, the application  
19 recalculates the available risk assumption capacity by  
20 reducing the available risk assumption capacity by the  
21 amount of risk assumed. The application then electronically  
22 withdraws from view and availability for submission by the  
23 cedents any proposals, the acceptance of which would reduce

1 the available risk assumption capacity below the selected  
2 amount.

3 The system is preferably designed such that proposals  
4 for a specific cedent are viewable only by that cedent. A  
5 specific cedent gains access to its proposals through a  
6 secure server using a user identification designation or  
7 user ID and password. Each cedent may view a listing of one  
8 or more proposals submitted for its consideration. The  
9 listing includes a brief summary of important financial  
10 terms of the proposal. The cedent may view additional  
11 details concerning each proposal, including additional  
12 financial terms and wording of contractual terms of the  
13 proposal, by selecting a proposal from the listing and then  
14 linking to additional pages for the selected proposal.

15 The system also preferably generates a separate listing  
16 for each cedent of each of the agreements it has entered  
17 into with the risk carrier, resulting from proposals which  
18 the cedent submitted through the system and accepted by the  
19 risk carrier. The listing of agreements provides a brief  
20 summary of important financial terms of the agreement. The  
21 cedent may view additional details concerning each  
22 agreement, including additional financial terms and the  
23 wording of contractual terms of the proposal, by selecting a

1      particular agreement from the listing and then linking to  
2      additional pages for the selected agreement.

3           The listing of agreements is automatically updated upon  
4      acceptance of an offer by the carrier. More specifically,  
5      upon acceptance of an offer by the application, the data  
6      relating to a proposal is removed from the listing of  
7      proposals and added to the listing of agreements.

8

9                    Objects and Advantages of the Invention

10

11           The objects of this invention include providing a  
12      system and method for efficiently ceding monetary risks,  
13      selling insurance capacity or processing insurance  
14      contracts; to provide such a system and method which allows  
15      a risk carrier to post currently available proposals for  
16      insurance coverage on a computer network to allow potential  
17      customers or cedents to readily access and view proposed  
18      financial and legal terms of currently available coverage;  
19      to provide such a system which allows a potential risk  
20      cedent to select and electronically submit a proposal as an  
21      offer for acceptance by the risk carrier; to provide such a  
22      system and method which allows the risk carrier to  
23      electronically accept such an offer; to provide such a

1 system which recalculates the risk carrier's available  
2 capacity upon acceptance of an offer to decrement the  
3 capacity accordingly; to provide such a system which removes  
4 from accessibility or view any proposals whose acceptance  
5 would exceed the then available capacity; to provide such a  
6 system which will notify the cedent upon submission of a  
7 proposal as to whether the offer is accepted or not; to  
8 provide such a system which allows the cedents to view the  
9 insurance agreements currently in force between it and the  
10 risk carrier; and to provide such a system which provides  
11 participating cedents secure access to view only those  
12 proposals specifically developed for it and to submit as  
13 offers only those proposals developed for it.

14 Other objects and advantages of this invention will  
15 become apparent from the following description taken in  
16 conjunction with the accompanying drawings wherein are set  
17 forth, by way of illustration and example, certain  
18 embodiments of this invention.

19 The drawings constitute a part of this specification  
20 and include exemplary embodiments of the present invention  
21 and illustrate various objects and features thereof.

### Brief Description of the Drawings

2

3 Fig. 1 is a block diagram illustrating an interactive  
4 system for use in practicing the method of the present  
5 invention including a system server.

6 Fig. 2 is a user specific entry page generated by the  
7 system server and viewable by a user of the interactive  
8 system providing links to other pages.

9           Fig. 3 is a user specific Proposals page generated by  
10          the system server and providing a listing of proposals  
11          available to the user with a specific proposal selected.

12 Fig. 4 is a user specific Agreements page generated by  
13 the system server and providing a listing of existing  
14 agreements for reinsurance.

15 Fig. 5 is a Proposal Details page generated by the  
16 system server and corresponding to the proposal selected in  
17 Fig. 3.

18 Fig. 6 is a Submit Proposal page generated by the  
19 system server for use in submitting the proposal selected.

20 Fig. 7 is a Acceptance Confirmation page generated by  
21 the server to confirm acceptance of the proposal submitted.

22 Fig. 8a is revised Proposals page generated after  
23 acceptance of the proposal selected in Fig. 3.

1           Fig. 8b is an alternative version of the revised  
2 Proposals page generated after acceptance of the proposal  
3 selected in Fig. 3.

4           Fig. 9 is a revised Agreements page generated after  
5 acceptance of the proposal selected in Fig. 3.

6           Fig. 10 is a flow chart of the steps of the interactive  
7 system and method of entering into contracts for the  
8 assumption of risks.

9

10           Detailed Description of the Invention

11

12           As required, detailed embodiments of the present  
13 invention are disclosed herein; however, it is to be  
14 understood that the disclosed embodiments are merely  
15 exemplary of the invention, which may be embodied in various  
16 forms. Therefore, specific details disclosed herein are not  
17 to be interpreted as limiting, but merely as a basis for the  
18 claims and as a representative basis for teaching one  
19 skilled in the art to variously employ the present invention  
20 in virtually any appropriately detailed system.

21           Referring to the drawings in more detail, Figure 1 is  
22 illustrative of an interactive system or computer network 1  
23 for use in carrying out the methodology of the present

1 invention for marketing and selling insurance and in  
2 particular reinsurance. Although the network 1 shown and  
3 described utilizes the internet, it is to be understood that  
4 the methodology of the present invention could be practiced  
5 utilizing other computer or communications networks.

6 The preferred embodiment is described with reference to  
7 sales of OLW (original loss warranty) type reinsurance.  
8 However, it is to be understood that the methodology and  
9 system of the present invention can be utilized to sell  
10 other forms of reinsurance or insurance and in general for  
11 entering into agreements to assume risks of others.

12 The network 1 is preferably conventional for internet  
13 applications and includes a database 5, an application  
14 server 6, a web server 7 and a firewall 8 which are  
15 selectively accessible through the internet 9 from computers  
16 10 of end users. As used herein the database 5, the  
17 application server 6, web server 7, firewall 8 and software  
18 run thereon to store, provide access to and manipulate data  
19 stored in the database 5 or on the servers 6 and 7 and 8,  
20 may collectively be referred to as a server or system server  
21 15. The system server 15 is generally assembled, operated,  
22 maintained and connected to the internet 9 by or under the  
23 authority of a reinsurer.

1        The end users comprise existing and/or potential  
2    clients or customers of a reinsurer or their brokers,  
3    representatives or agents. The customers may also be  
4    referred to as cedents or primary insurers. The customers  
5    use web browsers on their computers 10 to connect to the  
6    system server. The system server 15 responds to requests  
7    and commands received from the end user's browser, to  
8    generate pages responsive thereto as part of the methodology  
9    of the present invention.

10       Implementation of the interactive system and method  
11    requires some preliminary steps which do not necessarily  
12    occur sequentially, may occur simultaneously or may occur  
13    intermittently over an extended period of time. At an early  
14    stage of the process, the reinsurer must determine its  
15    overall capacity or the monetary value of risks that it can  
16    assume. A reinsurer's capacity is typically calculated on  
17    an annual basis just prior to the time for negotiating new  
18    or renewing old contracts. The reinsurer must also  
19    determine what types or classes of reinsurance it intends to  
20    sell utilizing the interactive system 1 and what portion of  
21    its overall capacity it wants to allocate to each type or  
22    class of reinsurance.

1        In another preliminary step, the reinsurer solicits and  
2    enrolls or selects cedents, or their representatives, to  
3    utilize the interactive system to purchase reinsurance from  
4    the reinsurer. The reinsurer sets up separate data records,  
5    accounts or files for each primary insurer or user in the  
6    system server 15. Upon enrolling a user to utilize the  
7    interactive system 1, the reinsurer provides the user with a  
8    unique user identification designation (User ID) and a  
9    password to provide the user secure access to selected  
10   information in the system server 15.

11       The reinsurer prepares or formulates proposals  
12   comprising the financial and legal terms of reinsurance  
13   contracts it is willing to enter into in the classes of  
14   reinsurance it intends to sell through the interactive  
15   system 1. The reinsurer will typically utilize established  
16   contract language for the proposals and vary the financial  
17   terms depending on then current market conditions and its  
18   current capacity. The proposals are input into or posted on  
19   the system server 15 so as to be viewable by end users on  
20   their computers 10 as discussed in more detail below. The  
21   terms of the proposals may be modified at appropriate  
22   intervals, such as to modify the proposal language in

1 response to changes in the law or to clarify certain  
2 provisions of the proposals.

3       The reinsurer must determine which proposals it wants  
4 to make available to which cedents. For example, the  
5 reinsurer may have two separate proposals to provide  
6 reinsurance for aviation insurance portfolios and ten  
7 different selected primary insurers who have aviation  
8 insurance portfolios. The reinsurer may decide to make a  
9 first aviation proposal available to all ten of the primary  
10 insurers and a second aviation proposal available to only  
11 six of the primary insurers.

12       The decision on which cedents to make available certain  
13 proposals will depend in large part on underwriting  
14 considerations and an understanding of the cedents'  
15 business. As part of the preliminary steps, the reinsurer  
16 evaluates insurance portfolios of each of the selected  
17 primary insurers or cedents for which it is considering  
18 making available reinsurance capacity. An insurance  
19 portfolio generally refers to all of the insurance policies  
20 issued by an insurer which fall within a specific class of  
21 business. More specifically, an insurer's insurance  
22 portfolio may refer to all of the insurance policies issued  
23 by an insurer which fall within the criteria for the type of

1 insurance for which the reinsurer is willing to make  
2 available a proposal for reinsurance. As an example, for  
3 OLW coverage for worldwide aviation lines, an insurer's  
4 portfolio would be all of its aviation policies providing  
5 worldwide coverage which are in force during the proposed  
6 term of reinsurance coverage.

7 Based on the underwriting or evaluation of the  
8 insurance portfolios, as well as other business  
9 considerations, the reinsurer will determine which proposals  
10 to make available to which cedents. The proposals are  
11 entered into the system server 15, and the system server 15  
12 is programmed to associate each of the proposals with  
13 selected cedents, as determined by the reinsurer.

14 The reinsurer also determines a capacity which is  
15 allocated to each type of proposal. For example, if the  
16 reinsurer allocates ten million dollars in risk assumption  
17 for the first aviation proposal and the covered amount or  
18 risk of loss for each of the first aviation policies is two  
19 million dollars, the reinsurer only has the capacity to  
20 enter into five contracts based on the first aviation  
21 proposal. This capacity may be referred to as a per  
22 occurrence capacity.

1        The reinsurer also determines a capacity for each  
2 cedent which may be referred to as a cedent capacity. The  
3 cedent capacity generally comprises the maximum risk of loss  
4 the reinsurer is willing to assume from a particular cedent.  
5 The cedent capacity will vary by cedent. Values for the per  
6 occurrence capacities and the cedent capacities are entered  
7 into the system server 15 and collectively may be referred  
8 to as the allocated capacity. The available allocated  
9 capacity generally refers to the amount of allocated  
10 capacity which remains available at any given time and which  
11 the reinsurer or risk carrier has not yet utilized through  
12 entering into an agreement with a cedent.

13       Once the preliminary steps are completed, the users are  
14 notified that the system 1 is available for use.

15       Alternatively, the selected users could be notified that the  
16 system 1 will be available for use on a predetermined date  
17 by which the reinsurer will have completed the preliminary  
18 steps. Most of the preliminary steps will be repeated on an  
19 annual basis. Each year the reinsurer will determine  
20 whether to enroll the same or additional users, recalculate  
21 its capacity, determine what proposals to make available to  
22 the various cedents, determine how to allocate its per

1 occurrence capacity and cedent capacity, and reinitialize  
2 those values in the system server.

3 To access the proposals on the system 1, a user or  
4 cedent, connects to a login page (not shown) generated by  
5 the system server 15. Following prompts, the user enters  
6 its User ID and password and clicks on a login button or  
7 enter button to access pages containing a information on  
8 proposals being made available to it and to access pages on  
9 reinsurance contracts it has already entered into with the  
10 reinsurer. Upon clicking the login button, a user specific  
11 entry page 18 (See Fig. 2) is generated for view by the  
12 user. The entry page 18 includes a button bar 19 with  
13 buttons to link to other pages including a Proposals button  
14 20 to link to a user specific Proposals page 21 (See Fig. 3)  
15 and an Agreements button 22 to link to a user specific  
16 agreements page 23 (See Fig. 4). As will be discussed in  
17 more detail below, the Proposals page 21 includes a listing  
18 of proposals which are currently available for  
19 consideration, and the Agreements page 23 provides a similar  
20 listing of reinsurance agreements which the parties have  
21 entered into and are in force.

22 Buttons are also provided on the button bar 19 of the  
23 entry page 18 to link to non-user specific pages (not shown)

1 including a Home page for the Reinsurer, a Contact Us page  
2 providing information to contact the Reinsurer and e-mail  
3 links for the Reinsurer, a Terms and Conditions page  
4 providing the terms and conditions of use of the interactive  
5 system 1, a Help page providing information to assist in use  
6 of the interactive system 1 and a Logout page. In a  
7 preferred embodiment, the users enter into a written  
8 agreement with the reinsurer covering use of the interactive  
9 system 1 before the system is made available to the user for  
10 use.

11 Clicking, selecting or pushing on the Proposals button  
12 20 causes the server 15 to generate the user specific  
13 Proposals page 21. An exemplary Proposals page 21 for user  
14 XYZ, Inc. is shown in Figure 3. The Proposals page 21  
15 provides a listing 28 of each of the proposals currently  
16 available for consideration by the specific cedent which, in  
17 the example shown, is XYZ, Inc. The listing 28 is generally  
18 presented in a table format, with each row 30 summarizing  
19 the main terms of each separate proposal. Listing 28, in  
20 Fig. 3, includes five proposals in rows 30a-e.

21 The first column 31 of each row includes a selection  
22 button or icon 32 over which a cursor can be positioned and  
23 clicked or activated to select the proposal as summarized in

1 that row 30. As indicated in Fig. 3, by the dot 33, the  
2 proposal corresponding to the first or upper row 30a has  
3 been selected.

4 Specific information or terms concerning each proposal  
5 are provided in remaining columns 35 under the appropriate  
6 headings, including the "Class of Business" or line of  
7 insurance, the original loss warranty amount or "OLW" in  
8 millions of dollars, the reinsurance amount or "Limit  
9 Upfront", the "ROL Upfront" or rate on line which is used to  
10 calculate the premium, the "Cover Basis", the beginning date  
11 ("Term from") and ending date ("Term to") of the policy  
12 term, the "Territory", the "Reinstatement" rate and the  
13 event "Coverage".

14 A Details button 36 and a Refresh button 37 are also  
15 provided on the Proposals page 21. Clicking on the Refresh  
16 button 37 reloads the user specific Proposals page 21 to  
17 permit the user to verify that all of the proposals listed  
18 remain available and have not been withdrawn from  
19 consideration as will be discussed in more detail below.  
20 Clicking on the Details button 36, after selecting a  
21 proposal by clicking on the corresponding selection button  
22 32, causes the server 15 to generate Proposal Details pages  
23 40 as generally shown in Fig. 5. The Proposals page 21 may

1 include additional information including instructions on how  
2 to select a proposal and link to the Proposal Details pages  
3 40 for each proposal, instructions on how to submit a  
4 proposal as an offer for acceptance, or instructions on  
5 contacting the reinsurer if no proposals are listed as being  
6 available or if the user has additional questions concerning  
7 use of the system 1.

8 Fig. 5 shows a first page 41 of the Proposal Details  
9 pages 40 corresponding to the proposal shown as selected in  
10 Figure 3. The page 41 includes a partial listing 43 of the  
11 terms of the selected proposal corresponding to the terms as  
12 shown on the Proposals page 21. Additional terms may also  
13 be included in this listing 43. For example, listing 43  
14 includes a term generally referred to as the "Priority" for  
15 the proposal which relates to the liability of the reinsurer  
16 if and when the loss paid by the cedent for the loss exceeds  
17 the Priority amount. Other terms may be listed elsewhere on  
18 the page 41 including when payment is due.

19 A variable coverage box 45 is provided on page 41, in  
20 association with the heading for Limit Upfront, to allow the  
21 user to vary the Limit Upfront or coverage amount. In  
22 particular, by clicking on the drop down arrow or icon 46, a  
23 drop down box (not shown) appears providing alternative

1 coverage amounts in decreasing value. For example, the  
2 values shown in the drop down box for selection box 45 could  
3 range in descending order in one million dollar increments  
4 from six million dollars to one million dollars. To select  
5 a different value for the Limit Upfront, the user, places  
6 the cursor on the selected amount and clicks on that amount,  
7 which will then appear in the selection box 45 and the drop  
8 down box will disappear. The default value in the selection  
9 box 45 is the maximum amount of coverage available through  
10 the proposal.

11 The first page 41 (Fig. 5) of the Proposal Details  
12 pages 40 also provides a Yes/No selection box 48 for the  
13 user to indicate whether a broker will be involved in the  
14 sale and if so a broker identification box 49 is provided to  
15 allow the user to fill in the name and address of the broker  
16 or other requested information. A Your Reference box 50 is  
17 provided for the user to fill in a reference number or code  
18 selected by the user to identify the proposal or resulting  
19 transaction.

20 At the bottom of page 41 a listing 54 of headings for  
21 applicable contractual clauses for the proposal is provided.  
22 The listing 54 carries over to additional pages of the  
23 Proposal Details pages 40 (or additional portions of the

1       first page 41) which are not shown. A Wording button 55 is  
2       positioned adjacent each heading in the listing 54 of  
3       applicable clauses. The user clicks on the Wording buttons  
4       55 to generate additional pages (not shown) including the  
5       full text of the selected clause. Any of the pages  
6       generated by the server may be printed by the user on a  
7       printer associated with the user's computer 10.

8               The first page 41 of the Proposal Details pages 40 also  
9       includes a Next button 60 and a Cancel button 61. Selecting  
10      or pressing the Cancel button 61 cancels any of the changes  
11      made to the Proposal Details page 40 in boxes 46, 48, 49 or  
12      50, and returns the user to the Proposals page 21.

13              Instructions 63 are provided on the first page 41 of  
14      the Proposal Details page 40 instructing a user on how to  
15      submit a proposal for acceptance. The instructions 63  
16      generally instruct the user to enter data where requested  
17      and to click on the Next button 60 to submit the proposal  
18      corresponding to the information presented on the Proposal  
19      Details page 40. Clicking on the Next button 60 causes the  
20      system server 15 to generate a corresponding Submit Proposal  
21      page 65 as generally shown in Fig. 6.

22              The Submit Proposal page 65 includes a listing 68 of  
23      the basic terms of the proposal, including data entered by

1 the user. For example, the Limit Upfront shown on the  
2 Submit Proposal page 65 corresponds to the Limit Upfront  
3 selected by the user on the Proposal Details page 40. Other  
4 data entered in the Proposal Details page 40 is also  
5 displayed on the Submit Proposal page 65 including whether a  
6 broker will be involved, and if so, the broker's name and  
7 address, and the users reference code. The Submit Proposal  
8 page 65 provides the user a final opportunity to review the  
9 basic terms of the proposal prior to submission for  
10 acceptance.

11 The Submit Proposal page 65 also includes a submit  
12 button 71, a back button 72 and a cancel button 73.  
13 Clicking on the cancel button 73, returns the user to the  
14 Proposals page 21 and cancels any of the changes made to the  
15 Proposal Details page 40 in boxes 46, 48, 49 or 50.  
16 Clicking on the back button 72 returns the user to the  
17 corresponding Proposal Details page 40. The user may elect  
18 to return to the Proposal Details page 40 to change data  
19 entries or confirm wording of some of the clauses of the  
20 proposal. Instructions 75 are also provided on the Submit  
21 Proposal page 65 instructing the user to review the basic or  
22 general terms and then click the submit button 71 if the  
23 user wants to submit the proposal for acceptance.

1       When the user clicks on the submit button 71, the  
2    system server 15 generates an acceptance confirmation page  
3    78 (See Fig. 7) if the proposal was still available at the  
4    time of submission. It is possible that a proposal could be  
5    withdrawn from availability to a user while viewing the  
6    Submit Proposal page 65. When the user then clicks on the  
7    submit button 71, the user will receive an error message.  
8    The error message may indicate that the proposal is no  
9    longer available for acceptance or may simply instruct the  
10   user to call the reinsurer to determine why an error message  
11   was received. Such an error message may be a page (not  
12   shown) which include a button to return the user to the  
13   Proposals page 21 or other pages.

14       The acceptance confirmation page 78 includes a message  
15    79 indicating the proposal has been accepted and the  
16    contract closed. The acceptance confirmation page 78  
17    provides a reinsurer reference number 80 which is assigned  
18    to the policy or contract by the system server 15 upon  
19    acceptance. Page 78 also includes a Print Premium Closing  
20    button 82, a Print Covernote button 83, a Proposals button  
21    84, an Agreements button 85 and a Logout button 86.

22       Clicking on the Print Covernote button 83 provides the  
23    ceding company with the opportunity to print a copy of the

1 contract or policy corresponding to the accepted proposal on  
2 a printer associated with the users computer 10. Clicking  
3 on the Print Premium Closing button 82 provides the ceding  
4 company with the opportunity to print a billing document for  
5 the policy or contract indicating the amount of the premium  
6 and indicating when it is due. The system server calculates  
7 the premium upon submission of a proposal. In the example  
8 shown, the premium is calculated by multiplying the selected  
9 coverage amount (Limit Upfront) by the listed rate or  
10 percentage identified as ROL Upfront.

11 Clicking on the Proposals button 84 regenerates the  
12 Proposals page 21. Clicking on the Agreements button 85  
13 generates or regenerates the agreements page 23, and  
14 clicking on the Logout button 86 logs the user out of the  
15 user specific pages, and returns the user to the login page  
16 (not shown) or the Reinsurer's home page (not shown).

17 In addition to generating the acceptance confirmation  
18 page 78, clicking the submit button 71 on the Submit  
19 Proposal page 65, causes the system server 15 to perform  
20 several other functions. Before describing these functions,  
21 an overview of the agreements page 23 will be helpful.

22 The Agreements page 23 (See Fig. 4) provides a listing

1 88 of each of the reinsurance agreements the specific user  
2 or insurer (in this example XYZ, Inc.) has entered into with  
3 the reinsurer. The listing 88 is generally presented in a  
4 table format, with each row 90 summarizing the basic terms  
5 of each separate agreement. Listing 88, in Fig. 4, includes  
6 four agreements in rows 90a-d.

7 The first column 91 of each row includes a selection  
8 button or icon 92 which can be clicked on to select the  
9 agreement as summarized in that row 90. Specific  
10 information or terms concerning each proposal are provided  
11 in remaining columns 95 under the appropriate headings,  
12 including the "Class of Business" or line of insurance, the  
13 original loss warranty or "OLW" amount in millions of  
14 dollars, the reinsurance amount or "Limit Upfront," the "ROL  
15 Upfront" or rate on line upfront used in calculating the  
16 premium, the "Cover Basis", the beginning date ("Term from")  
17 and ending date ("Term to") of the policy term, the  
18 "Territory", the "Reinstatement" rate and the event  
19 "Coverage". Additional columns could be added to include  
20 the reinsurer's and/or the user's reference number.

21 A Details button 96 is also provided on the Agreements  
22 page 23. Clicking on the Details button 96, after selecting  
23 an agreement by clicking on the corresponding selection

1 button 92, causes the server 15 to generate Agreement  
2 Details pages (not shown) which are similar in appearance to  
3 and provide much of the same information about the agreement  
4 as is provided on a corresponding Proposal Details pages 40.  
5 The Agreement Details pages provide a listing of the basic  
6 terms of the specific agreement and a listing of headings  
7 for the applicable clauses with an associated link to view  
8 the specific wording of each clause.

9 In order to facilitate use of the interactive system 1,  
10 it is to be understood that additional links may be included  
11 in the various pages generated. In particular, the button  
12 bar 19 (shown in Fig. 2) preferably appears on or as part of  
13 a frame surrounding each Proposals page 21 and each  
14 Agreements page 23 generated.

15 Referring again to Figures 3 and 4, Figure 3 shows the  
16 listing 28 of proposals available to the specific cedent,  
17 XYZ, Inc., before submission of the selected proposal, which  
18 appears at the top of the table. Similarly, Figure 4 shows  
19 the listing 88 of agreements entered into between the  
20 reinsurer and the specific cedent, XYZ, Inc., before  
21 submission of the proposal shown as selected in Figure 3.

22 When the user submits the selected proposal for  
23 acceptance, by clicking on the submit button 71 on the

1 Submit Proposal page 65 (Fig. 6), the system server 15  
2 withdraws or disassociates the relevant information for the  
3 selected proposal from the proposals listing 28 (row 30a in  
4 Fig. 3) and adds or associates the relevant information with  
5 the agreements listing 88. Figures 8a and 8b show the  
6 proposals page 21 as it appears after submission and  
7 acceptance of the proposal shown selected in Figure 3. The  
8 selected proposal from Figure 3 (row 30a), does not appear  
9 in the listing 28 in Figures 8a and 8b. The absence of rows  
10 30c and 30d in Figure 8a and the decrease in the maximum  
11 value of the Limits Upfront in rows 30c and 30d of Figure 8b  
12 will be discussed below.

13 Figure 9 shows the Agreements page 23 as it appears  
14 after submission and acceptance of the proposal (row 30a)  
15 shown selected in Figure 3. The resulting agreement has  
16 been added to the listing 88 and appears as row 90e in Fig  
17 9. If for any reason, problems are encountered in receiving  
18 the Acceptance Confirmation page 78 (Fig. 7), the user can  
19 confirm whether submission of a proposal has been accepted  
20 by viewing the Agreements page 23 to verify that the  
21 resulting agreement appears in the listing 88 thereon.

22 Essentially simultaneously with generation of the  
23 Acceptance Confirmation page 78 and transfer or

1 reassociation of the data associated with the accepted  
2 proposal to the agreements page 23, the system server 15  
3 recalculates the available allocated capacity. As noted  
4 previously, the allocated capacity comprises the cedent  
5 capacity for each of the cedents and the per occurrence  
6 capacity. The available allocated capacity is recalculated  
7 by reducing the values associated therewith in the system  
8 server by the amount of capacity extended or utilized by the  
9 proposal. The system server 15 then withdraws from  
10 availability any proposals whose acceptance would reduce the  
11 available allocated capacity below a selected amount. The  
12 selected amount is generally zero.

13 For example and referring to Figure 3, assume the  
14 cedent capacity of XYZ, Inc. is eight million dollars  
15 (\$8,000,000) and the selected amount below which the cedent  
16 capacity cannot be reduced is zero. Acceptance of the  
17 selected proposal in row 30a, with coverage in the amount of  
18 six million dollars (\$6,000,000), will reduce the available  
19 cedent capacity of XYZ, Inc. to two million dollars  
20 (\$2,000,000). The maximum value of coverage in the  
21 proposals in rows 30b and 30e, of Fig. 2, do not exceed the  
22 new cedent capacity of two million dollars. Therefore the  
23 proposals in rows 30b and 30e will not be withdrawn from

1 availability and will be included in the Proposals page 21  
2 generated after acceptance of the proposal in row 30a.

3 The maximum value of coverage in the proposals in rows  
4 30c and 30d in Figure 3 exceeds the currently available  
5 cedent capacity of two million dollars. The system server  
6 15 can be programmed to withdraw from availability to a  
7 cedent any proposal whose maximum value of coverage exceeds  
8 the then available cedent capacity. With the system 15 so  
9 programmed, upon acceptance of the proposal in row 30a, the  
10 proposals in rows 30c and 30d (each providing a maximum  
11 coverage of four million dollars) would be withdrawn from  
12 availability to cedent XYZ, Inc. and the Proposals page 21  
13 generated thereafter would appear as shown in Figure 8a.

14 It is foreseen that the system server 15 could be  
15 programmed to reduce the maximum value of coverage of any  
16 remaining proposals for the cedent to the then available  
17 cedent capacity. With the system 15 so programmed, upon  
18 acceptance of the proposal in row 30a, the maximum value of  
19 coverage (Limit Upfront) for the proposals in rows 30c and  
20 30d would each be reduced to two million dollars, and the  
21 Proposals page 21 generated thereafter would appear as shown  
22 in Figure 8b.

1       For purposes of explaining the operation of the system  
2 server 15 in withdrawing from availability proposals whose  
3 acceptance would exceed the per occurrence capacity, assume  
4 the initial capacity allocated by the reinsurer to aviation  
5 proposals equivalent to the proposal shown in row 30a of  
6 Figure 3, is thirty million dollars. The value for the  
7 available per occurrence capacity entered into the system  
8 server 15 for that proposal could be the number 5, to  
9 correspond to the maximum number of such aviation proposals  
10 the reinsurer can accept (based upon the maximum amount of  
11 coverage available for each proposal). Upon acceptance of  
12 such an aviation proposal, the value for the available per  
13 occurrence capacity would be reduced by one. If the same  
14 aviation proposal was initially made available to 10  
15 cedents, once five accepted this proposal, the proposal  
16 would be withdrawn from availability from the remaining five  
17 and would not appear on their respective Proposals page 21.  
18 It should be noted that the proposal may have been  
19 previously withdrawn from availability from one of the  
20 remaining five cedents if acceptance of the proposal by that  
21 cedent would reduce that cedent's then available cedent  
22 capacity below the selected amount.

1        The value of the available per occurrence capacity, in  
2    the example provided, could also be initialized at thirty  
3    million dollars with this value being reduced each time a  
4    proposal is submitted and accepted by the maximum value of  
5    the Limit Upfront, or six million dollars. Again, once five  
6    such proposals are accepted, any remaining proposals will be  
7    withdrawn from availability.

8        It is also foreseen that with the value of the  
9    available per occurrence capacity initialized at thirty  
10   million dollars, the available per occurrence capacity would  
11   be reduced by the selected value of coverage or limit  
12   upfront upon the acceptance of each submitted proposal. In  
13   such an application, the system server could be programmed  
14   to reduce the maximum value of coverage of any remaining  
15   proposals to the value of the recalculated or the then  
16   available per occurrence capacity, if the maximum value of  
17   the coverage would otherwise exceed the then available per  
18   occurrence capacity. Continuing with the example above, if  
19   proposals were accepted from three cedents submitting the  
20   aviation proposal of row 30a with the maximum Limit Upfront  
21   of six million dollars and from two cedents submitting the  
22   same aviation proposal but with a reduced Limit Upfront of  
23   four million dollars each, the system server 15 would then

1 reduce the maximum value of the coverage of any of the  
2 remaining aviation proposals (like row 30a) to four million  
3 dollars. Upon acceptance of one or more additional aviation  
4 proposals whose combined coverage amount equals four million  
5 dollars, any remaining aviation proposals corresponding to  
6 the proposal of row 30a are withdrawn from availability.

7 It is to be understood that the programming logic  
8 utilized in determining the value of the available allocated  
9 capacity and whether acceptance of additional proposals  
10 would reduce the available allocated capacity below a  
11 selected amount could be varied. For example, using the  
12 example above relating to cedent capacity, the server 15  
13 could be programmed to set or establish a value for a  
14 cedent's maximum capacity at ten million dollars. A value  
15 for a utilized capacity could initially be set at zero.  
16 Upon acceptance of a proposal utilizing five million dollars  
17 in capacity for the cedent, the value of the utilized  
18 capacity would be increased to five million dollars. The  
19 server would then withdraw from availability any proposals  
20 whose acceptance would increase the utilized capacity above  
21 the maximum capacity.

22 It is to be understood that the steps of setting a  
23 value for a cedent's maximum capacity and setting an initial

1       value for a utilized capacity (i.e. at zero) is the same as  
2       or equivalent to initializing or establishing on the server  
3       a value for an available risk assumption capacity. It is  
4       also to be understood that the step of increasing the  
5       utilized capacity upon acceptance of a proposal is the same  
6       as or equivalent to recalculating the available risk  
7       assumption capacity upon acceptance of an offer. Further,  
8       it is to be understood that the step of withdrawing from  
9       availability any proposals whose acceptance would increase  
10      the utilized capacity above the maximum capacity is the same  
11      as or the equivalent to the step of withdrawing from  
12      availability any proposals whose acceptance would reduce the  
13      available risk assumption capacity, as recalculated, below a  
14      selected amount.

15           The available capacity generally refers to the maximum  
16      capacity less the utilized capacity. The selected amount  
17      below which the available capacity cannot be reduced is  
18      typically zero. In determining whether acceptance of a  
19      proposal would increase the utilized capacity above the  
20      maximum capacity, the program must first subtract the  
21      utilized capacity from the maximum capacity which is the  
22      same as recalculating the available capacity which would  
23      result from acceptance of the proposal. Determining whether

1 the increase in the utilized capacity will result in a value  
2 which exceeds the maximum capacity is the same as  
3 determining whether the corresponding reduction in the value  
4 of the available capacity will reduce that value below the  
5 selected value, zero.

6 It is to be understood that as used herein reference to  
7 the step of withdrawing a proposal from availability should  
8 be interpreted broadly enough to incorporate the step of  
9 reducing the maximum value of coverage for any one proposal  
10 at least to the then current value for available capacity,  
11 including either cedent capacity or per occurrence capacity.

12 In the system and method as described with reference to  
13 the sales of original loss warranty type reinsurance, the  
14 method is generally utilized on an annual basis. The  
15 reinsurer calculates and allocates its capacity on an annual  
16 basis and reinitializes values for the per occurrence and  
17 cedent capacities in the system server 15 at the beginning  
18 of every year. Once a cedent's allocated cedent capacity is  
19 utilized, the cedent cannot purchase additional reinsurance  
20 through the system until the next year. Once the per  
21 occurrence capacity for a particular proposal is utilized,  
22 no additional policies for that proposal can be sold until  
23 the following year.

1        However, it is to be understood that the system server  
2        15 could be programmed to permit the reinsurer to  
3        reinitialize the values for the available allocated  
4        capacities at any time. It is foreseeable, that the system  
5        could be utilized to increase or decrease the available  
6        allocated capacity at any time (if regulations would permit)  
7        depending on various factors including the reinsurer's and  
8        cedents' changing financial conditions. The system server  
9        15 could be programmed to automatically make available upon  
10      an increase in available allocated capacity of proposals  
11      which were previously withdrawn or new proposals added to  
12      the system.

13       Figure 10 comprises a flow chart summarizing the main  
14      steps of the present invention. Block 108 corresponds to  
15      the step of identifying and enrolling potential customers or  
16      cedents to utilize the interactive system 1. Block 110  
17      corresponds to the step of formulating or developing risk  
18      assumption proposals, which can occur simultaneously with or  
19      even before the step of identifying and enrolling potential  
20      customers as shown in block 108. Block 112 corresponds to  
21      the step of posting on a secure server proposals which are  
22      to be made available to selected cedents. Risk capacity is

1        allocated to the proposals and the cedents as shown by block  
2        114 and initialized on the server.

3                Block 116 corresponds to the step of selecting and  
4        electronically submitting a proposal by a cedent utilizing  
5        the interactive system 1. Generation of an electronic  
6        acceptance confirmation message by the system server 15 upon  
7        submission of a proposal is shown by Block 118. Upon  
8        acceptance of a proposal, the data associated with the  
9        accepted proposal is transferred to or included in a list of  
10        agreements as indicated by block 120. Simultaneously  
11        therewith, the system server recalculates the allocated risk  
12        capacity as shown by block 122. The server 15 then  
13        determines whether the required capacity of any remaining  
14        proposals exceeds the allocated risk capacity as  
15        recalculated, as represented by the decision block 124. The  
16        remaining proposals whose required capacity exceeds the  
17        allocated risk capacity are electronically withdrawn from  
18        availability as shown by block 126. The steps of the method  
19        are then repeated from the point where proposals are  
20        submitted by cedents as represented by block 116.

21                It is to be understood that while certain forms of the  
22        present invention have been illustrated and described

1 herein, it is not to be limited to the specific forms or  
2 arrangement of steps described and shown.

C\_L\_A\_I\_M\_S

What is claimed is as follows:

1. A method for a risk carrier to assume monetary risks from a plurality of risk cedents, comprising the steps of:
  - (a) posting on a server a plurality of proposals to assume selected risks of respective risk cedents such that said proposals are viewable through a computer network;
  - (b) initializing on said server an available risk assumption capacity of said risk carrier associated with said proposals;
  - (c) enabling electronic submission by any one of said cedents of one of said proposals associated therewith as an offer for acceptance by said risk carrier;
  - (d) electronically accepting, by said risk carrier, said offer submitted by one of said risk cedents;
  - (e) electronically recalculating said available risk assumption capacity upon accepting said offer; and

(f) electronically withdrawing from availability any of said proposals whose acceptance would reduce said available risk assumption capacity, as recalculated, below a selected amount.

2. The method as in Claim 1 further comprising the step of:

(a) electronically providing confirmation of acceptance of said offer to said cedent which submitted said offer.

3. The method as in Claim 1 further comprising the step of:

(a) posting said offer which was accepted on said server so as to be viewable by said cedent which submitted said offer.

4. The method as in Claim 1 wherein:

(a) said step of providing access through said computer network includes limiting access of each of said cedents to view only said proposals which are specific to said cedent.

5. A method for a risk carrier to assume monetary risks from a plurality of risk cedents, comprising the steps of:

- (a) posting on a server a proposal to assume a monetary risk of selected risk cedents such that said proposal is viewable by said selected risk cedents through a computer network;
- (b) initializing on said server an available risk assumption capacity of said risk carrier to accept said proposal from said selected risk cedents;
- (c) enabling electronic submission by any one of said selected risk cedents of said proposal as an offer for acceptance by said risk carrier;
- (d) electronically accepting, by said risk carrier, said offer submitted by one of said selected risk cedents;
- (e) electronically recalculating said available risk assumption capacity upon accepting said offer; and
- (f) electronically withdrawing said proposal from availability if further acceptance of said proposal would reduce said available risk assumption capacity, as recalculated, below a selected amount.

6. The method as in Claim 5 further comprising the step of:

- (a) electronically providing confirmation of acceptance of said offer to said cedent which submitted said offer.

7. The method as in Claim 5 further comprising the step of:

- (a) posting said offer which was accepted on said server so as to be viewable by said cedent which submitted said offer.

8. A method for ceding a plurality of monetary risks from a risk cedent to a risk carrier, comprising the steps of:

- (a) posting on a server a plurality of proposals to assume a plurality of risks of said cedent such that said proposals are viewable by said cedent through a computer network;
- (b) initializing on said server an available risk assumption capacity for an amount of risk said risk carrier will assume from said risk cedent;

- (c) enabling electronic submission by said cedent of any one said proposals as an offer for acceptance by said risk carrier;
- (d) electronically accepting, by said risk carrier, • said offer submitted by said cedent;
- (e) electronically recalculating said available risk assumption capacity upon accepting said offer; and
- (f) electronically withdrawing any of said proposals which have not been submitted for acceptance and whose acceptance would reduce said available risk assumption capacity, as recalculated, below a selected amount.

9. The method as in Claim 8 further comprising the step of:

- (a) electronically providing confirmation of acceptance of said offer to said cedent.

10. The method as in Claim 8 further comprising the step of:

- (a) posting said offer which was accepted on said server so as to be viewable by said cedent.

11. A method for a reinsurer to sell reinsurance to a plurality of selected cedents, comprising the steps of:

- (a) evaluating an insurance portfolio of each of a plurality of cedents;
- (b) developing proposals to reinsurance selected insurance portfolios of said selected cedents;
- (c) posting said proposals on a server such that said proposals are viewable through a computer network;
- (d) initializing on said server an available reinsurance capacity of said reinsurer to accept said proposals;
- (e) providing access through said computer network to said selected cedents to view said proposals;
- (f) enabling electronic submission by any one of said selected cedents of one of said proposals as an offer for acceptance by said reinsurer;
- (g) receiving said offer from said cedent by said reinsurer;
- (h) electronically accepting, by said reinsurer, said offer from said cedent;
- (i) electronically recalculating said available reinsurance capacity upon accepting said offer;

and

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(j) electronically withdrawing any of said proposals whose acceptance would reduce said available reinsurance capacity, as recalculated, below a selected amount.

12. The method as in Claim 11 further comprising the step of:

(a) electronically providing confirmation of acceptance of each of said offers to said cedent which submitted said offer.

13. The method as in Claim 11 further comprising the step of:

(a) posting each of said offers which are accepted on said server so as to be viewable by said cedent which submitted said offer.

14. The method as in Claim 11 wherein:

(a) said step of providing access through said computer network includes limiting access of each of said selected cedents to view only said proposals which are specific to said selected cedent.

15. The method as in Claim 11 wherein said proposals include an amount of coverage corresponding to a maximum amount of coverage to be provided and said method further comprises the steps of:

- (a) enabling said cedents to electronically decrease said amount of coverage of one of said proposals before submission of said proposal for acceptance; and
- (b) electronically calculating a premium based on said amount of coverage selected by said cedent.

16. A method for a reinsurer to sell reinsurance for a plurality of classes of insurance to a plurality of cedents, comprising the steps of:

- (a) developing, for each of said classes of insurance, a proposal to reinsure insurance portfolios of said cedents;
- (b) posting said proposals on a server such that selected ones of said proposals are viewable by selected ones of said cedents through a computer network;

- (c) initializing on said server an available cedent capacity for each of said cedents and an available per occurrence capacity for each of said proposals;
- (d) enabling electronic submission by any one of said cedents of one of said proposals associated therewith as an offer for acceptance by said reinsurer;
- (e) electronically accepting by said reinsurer said offer submitted by one of said selected cedents;
- (f) electronically recalculating said available cedent capacity of said cedent and said available per occurrence capacity of said proposal upon accepting said offer; and
- (g) electronically withdrawing from availability any of said proposals whose acceptance would reduce said available cedent capacity or said available per occurrence capacity, as recalculated, below a selected amount.

17. The method as in Claim 16 further comprising the step of:

- (a) electronically providing confirmation of acceptance of said offer to said cedent which submitted said offer.

18. The method as in Claim 16 further comprising the step of:

- (a) posting said offer which was accepted on said server so as to be viewable by said cedent which submitted said offer.

19. The method as in Claim 16 wherein:

- (a) said step of providing access through said computer network includes limiting access of each of said cedents to view only said proposals which are specific to said cedent.

20. The method as in Claim 16 wherein said proposals include an amount of coverage corresponding to a maximum amount of coverage to be provided and said method further comprises the steps of:

- (a) enabling said cedents to electronically decrease said amount of coverage of one of said proposals before submission of said proposal for acceptance; and
- (b) electronically calculating a premium based on said amount of coverage selected by said cedent.

Abstract of the Disclosure

An interactive system and method of selling reinsurance involves preliminary steps of enrolling a plurality of primary insurers or cedents to use the system, formulating reinsurance proposals to make available to the cedents through the interactive system, posting the proposals on a secure server in the system and calculating and allocating risk capacity to the proposals and cedents. Each cedent is provided secure access to a list of proposals being made available to it. Upon selection and submission of a proposal by a cedent, the system server generates an acceptance notice, transfers the information on the proposal to a listing of agreements entered into by that cedent, recalculates the available allocated capacity and withdraws from availability any proposals whose acceptance would reduce the available allocated capacity below a selected amount.

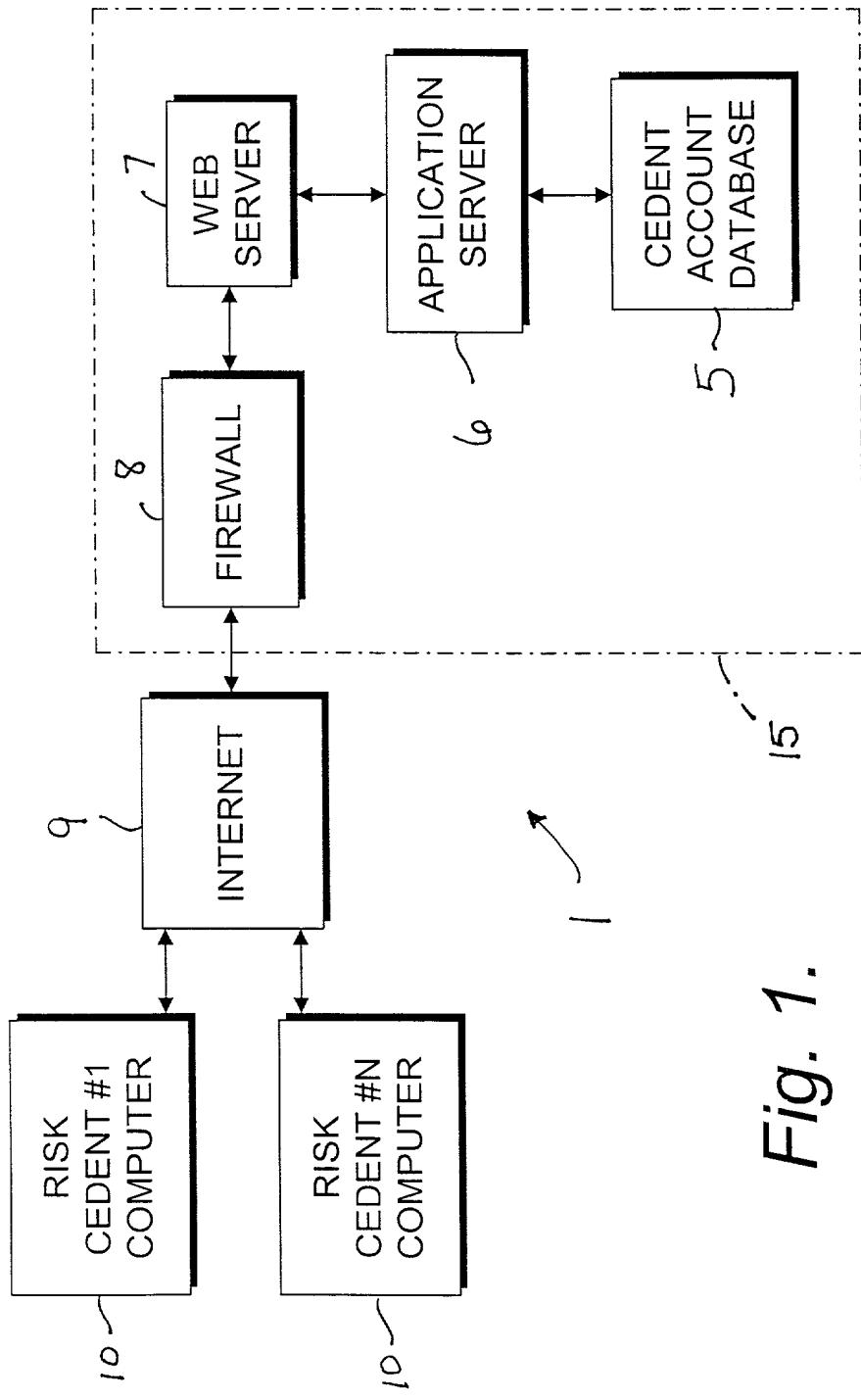


Fig. 1.

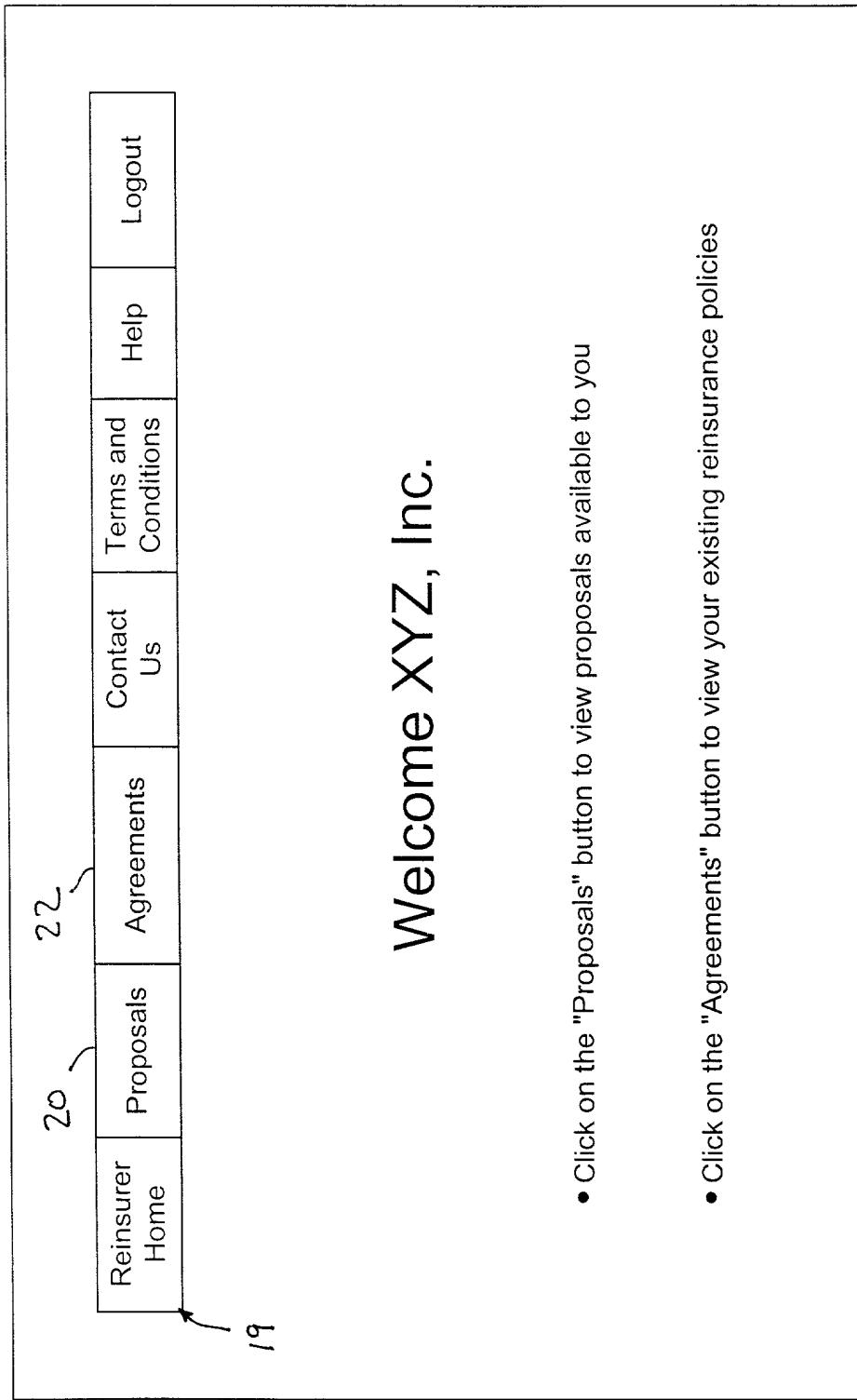


Fig. 2.

Proposals to XYZ, Inc.						
Class of Business	OLW \$M	Limit Upfront	ROL Upfront	Cover Basis	Term from	Term to
31	Aviation	1,500	6,000,000	5.00%	L.O.D.	01/01/00 12/31/00
32	Aviation	800	1,000,000	15.00%	L.O.D.	01/01/00 12/31/00
33	Energy/Marine	5,000	4,000,000	35.00%	L.O.D.	01/01/00 12/31/00
34	Non-Marine	800	4,000,000	15.00%	L.O.D.	01/01/00 12/31/00
35	Space	250	2,000,000	30.00%	L.O.D.	01/01/00 12/31/00

Fig. 3.

21

Agreements of XYZ, Inc.						
Class of Business	OLW \$M	Limit Upfront	ROL Upfront	Cover Basis	Term from	Term to
Aviation	5,000	9,000,000	36.75% (w/5% Brkrg)	L.O.D.	01/01/00	12/31/00
Aviation	600	1,000,000	25.00%	L.O.D.	01/01/00	12/31/00
Non-Marine	800	1,000,000	15.00%	L.O.D.	01/01/00	12/31/00
Energy/Marine	1,000	1,000,000	12.50%	L.O.D.	01/01/00	12/31/00

16 — Details

23

Fig. 4.

## Proposal Details

To submit proposal, enter data where requested and click 'NEXT' ↗ 63

41

Class of Business: Aviation

Treaty Type Excess of Loss

OLW \$1.500M

Limit Upfront \$ 6,000,000 ↗ 46

ROL Upfront 5.00% ↗ 45

Priority \$100,000

43

Cover Basis L.O.D.

Term From 01/01/2000 to 12/31/2000

Territory Worldwide

Reinstatements 1@100%

Coverage 1st Event

Involve Broker No ↗ 48

Name and address of broker

Your Reference ↗ 50

Payment Terms Payable within 45 days after inception

next ↗ 60

cancel ↗ 61

The following clauses apply to this proposal: ↗ 54

Name	Description	Wording
	Excluding: Errors and Omissions written as such	wording
	Excluding: Financial Guarantee	wording
	Excluding: Aviation Losses emanating from Other Accounts	wording

55

40 ↗

Fig. 5.

## Submit Proposal

Please check the general terms once again and click 'submit' to bind coverage.

Class of Business: Aviation  
Treaty Type Excess of Loss

75

OLW	\$1.500M
Limit Upfront	\$ 6,000,000
ROL Upfront	5.00%
Priority	\$100,000
Cover Basis	L.O.D.
Term	From 01/01/2000 to 12/31/2000
Territory	Worldwide
Reinstatements	1@100%
Coverage	1st Event

68

Involve Broker No

Your Reference AV001

Payment Terms Payable within 45 days after inception

submit

back

cancel

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Fig. 6.

## Proposal Accepted/Contract Closed

Thank you for purchasing this Reinsurance.

Our Reference is: N/00007/99/0/00 ~ 80

Click the "Print Premium Closing" button to print a billing document for the policy.

Click the "Print Covernote" button to print a copy of the policy.

Click the "Proposals" button to view remaining proposals.

Print Premium Closing	Print Covernote	Proposals	Agreements	Logout
82	83	84	85	86

78

Fig. 7.

79

Proposals to XYZ, Inc.						
Class of Business	OLW \$M	Limit Upfront	ROL Upfront	Cover Basis	Term from	Term to
Aviation	800	1,000,000	15.00%	L.O.D.	01/01/00	12/31/00
Space	250	2,000,000	30.00%	L.O.D.	01/01/00	12/31/00

Fig. 8a.

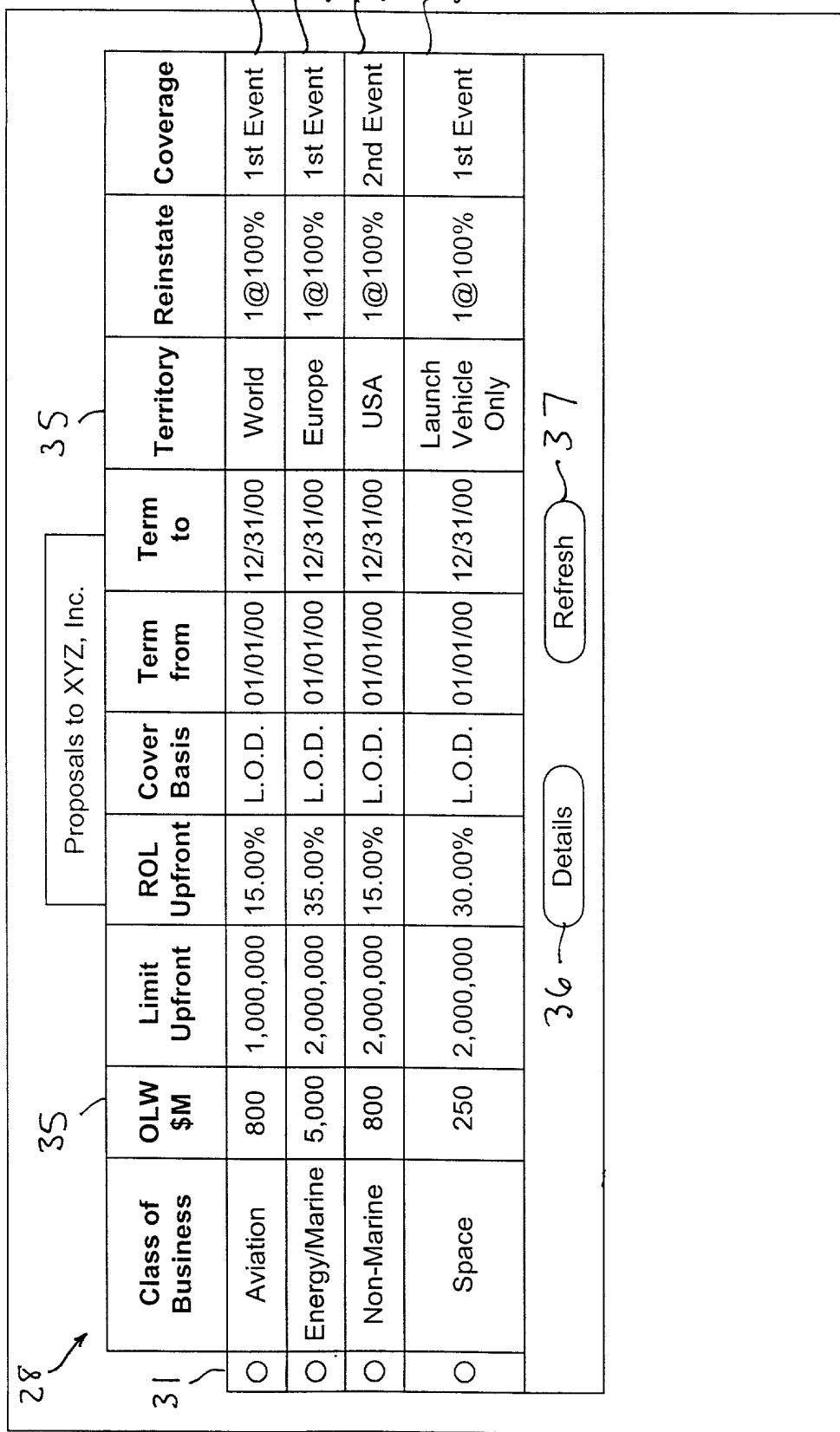


Fig. 8b.

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Agreements of XYZ, Inc.

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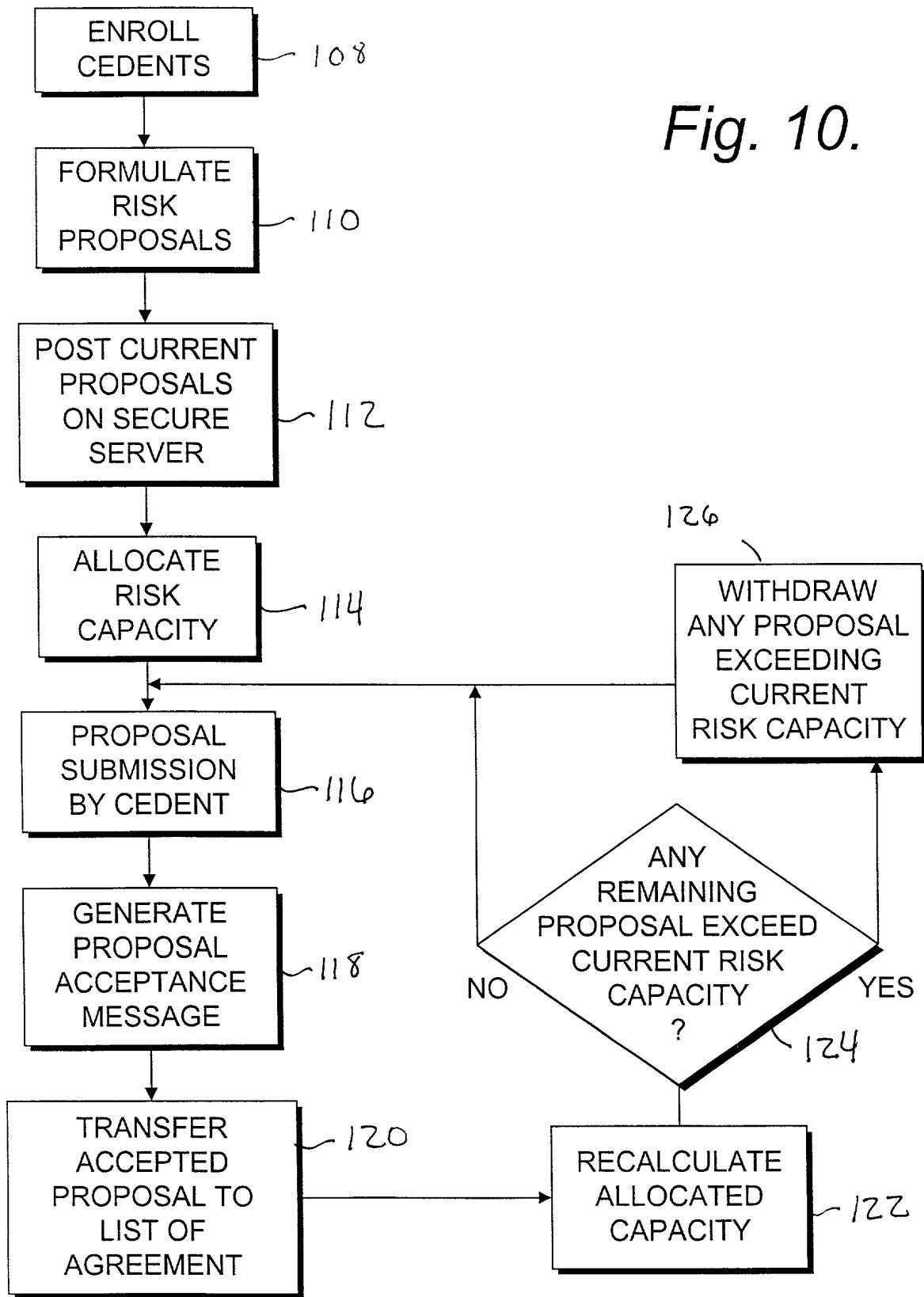
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Fig. 10.



DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY  
FOR A PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled INTERACTIVE SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR SELLING INSURANCE, the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Sec. 1.56. (Under Sec. 1.56 information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record before the Patent and Trademark Office with respect to the present application and it establishes either by itself or in combination with other information a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim or it refutes or is inconsistent with a position taken in opposing an argument of unpatentability relied upon by the Patent and Trademark Office or in asserting an argument of patentability. Under this section a prima facie case of unpatentability is

established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.)

I hereby state that I do not know and do not believe that the invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before my invention thereof; that to the best of my knowledge and belief the invention has not been in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to this application, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before my invention thereof or more than one year prior to this application, or patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to this application; and that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention has been filed in any country foreign to the United States of America prior to this application by me or my legal representatives or assigns.

I hereby appoint Malcolm A. Litman, Reg. No. 19,579; Gerald M. Kraai, Reg. No. 34,854; Mark E. Brown, Reg. No. 30,361; and

Kent R. Erickson, Reg. No. 36,793, all members of the bar of the State of Missouri, whose postal address is Litman, Kraai & Brown, L.L.C., 4700 Bellevue, Suite 200, Kansas City, Missouri 64112, telephone (816) 931-1800 as my attorneys, with full power of substitution, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent Office connected therewith in my behalf.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Robert Klaus

Residence: Grüntenweg 5, 86551 Aichach, Germany

Post Office  
Address: Grüntenweg 5, 86551 Aichach, Germany

Citizenship: Germany